THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No Sir, the Supreme Court in its judgement in the case of Indira Sawhney & Others Vs. Union of India has held constitutionally invalid reservation of posts in favour of other economically backward sections of the people who are not covered by any of the existing scheme of reservation.

(b) All possible steps are taken to ensure that the candidates belonging to the minority communities are enable to come forward for public appointments.

Special programmes for the socio-economic and educational upliftment are also being implemented.

Reservation for Physically Handicapped in Central Government Jobs

1940. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to increase the percentage of reservation for the physically handicapped persons in the Central Government jobs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Section 33 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 already provides for reservation of not less than 3% in jobs in government establishments for persons with disabilities.

Reduction in Floor Price of Steel Products

1941. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have reduced the floor price of a number of Steel products including HR Coils to the tune of around 20 per cent despite the known fact that C.I.S. countries are dumping those products in our country; if so, the reasons therefor;